Linking of Major Rivers for Waterways

648. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps have been taken by Government to link some major rivers for waterways;

(b) whether the proposal to link Mahanadi with Godavari was one of such proposals which have been pending for implementation;

(c) if so, the estimated cost of the project; and

(d) the steps taken by Govt, to implement the project expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The Central Government has prepared a National Perspective for optimum utilisation of Water Resources Comprising of two components viz. Himalayan rivers development and Peninsular rivers development. There are 19 water transfer links under the Himalayan component and 17 links under Peninsular component.

National Water Development Agency (NWDA) was established in 1982 by the Government of India under the Ministry of Water Resources to undertake studies on National Perspective of Water Resources Development.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 3616 crores.

(d) National Water Development Agency has been entrusted to prepare the pre-feasibility and feasibility reports of the projects. After the pre-feasibility studies are completed, these are circulated to the concerned Basin States for their comments^uggestions. The projects can be considered for implementation after necessary agreements are reached amongst the concerned States.

Setting up of National Institute of Computer and Allied Sciences

649. CHAUDHARY HARMOHAN SINGH:
SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA:
SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Steering committee set up to work out modalities for setting up Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Computer and Allied Sciences in the country has since submitted its report; and

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Yes sir.

(b) The Report is under active consideration of the Government.

Assistance to Punjab for Agricultural and Industrial Loans

650. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minsiter of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of financial grants/ assistance given by the Central Government to the State of Punjab for providing agricultural and industrial loans during 1992-93, 1994-95 and so far in 1995-96, District-wise; and

(b) the amount of assistance to be proposed for the aforesaid prupose for the next two years for the state of Punjab?

THE MINSITER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) There is no scheme being implemented by the Department of Agriculture for providing grants/assistance to the States to provide